United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Nevada Ag Stats Newsletter

Nevada Field Office · PO Box 8880 · Reno, NV 89507
(888) 456-7211 · (775) 972-6002 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/nv
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Annual Bulletin

The Nevada Agricultural Statistics 2011 Bulletin is now available and can be downloaded for free from our website at **www.nass.usda.gov/nv.** This annual publication contains state level data on crop and livestock production from 2001 through 2010.

United States Fall Potato Production Up From Last Year

United States: Production of fall potatoes for 2011 is forecast at 385 million cwt, up 5 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 938,500 acres, is slightly above the September 1 forecast and 6 percent above the 2010 estimate. The average yield forecast, at 410 cwt per acre, is down 6 cwt per acre from last year's yield.

In Idaho, yields are good despite a cool, wet spring that delayed emergence. If realized, the yield will be the second highest on record. In Maine, growers were challenged by persistent wet conditions that delayed planting, washed out fields, and delayed harvest. In Washington, harvesting conditions were favorable, however yields from early digs were lower than last year due to immaturity. Data for Nevada potato production were not released due to disclosure issues.

November Weather Summary

November started off with a storm system moving across the State bringing cold temperatures and wind. High pressures systems dominated the middle of the month bringing warmer temperatures. The month of November ended with another storm system bringing more cool temperatures and wind. Las Vegas recorded the monthly high of 79 degrees. Ely recorded the lowest temperature of the month at 0 degrees. Precipitation was below normal and scattered during the month. Winnemucca recorded the most precipitation with 0.50 inches. Nevada farmers and ranchers generally completed most field work by month’s end. Cattle movement slowed throughout the month as ranchers moved livestock to market and winter pastures. Late season hay harvest finished. Seasonal onions were being taken to sheds for sorting, bagging, and shipping. Main farm and ranch activities include: weed control, equipment maintenance, and planting of fall-seeded crops.

Weather data for stations in Nevada: November 2011

Station	Temperature (°F)				Precipitation (inches)		
	Monthly Avg.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Monthly Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24 Hour
Reno	42.1	+1.2	67	20	0.06	-0.74	0.04
Elko	33.6	-1.1	58	12	0.39	-0.72	0.13
Ely	33.7	0.0	63	0	0.36	-0.34	0.29
Winnemucca	34.3	-2.6	61	1	0.50	-0.38	0.22
Eureka	33.5	-1.1	60	7	0.22	-0.56	0.13
Tonopah	36.8	-3.3	60	13	0.12	-0.32	0.09
Las Vegas	54.8	-1.7	79	38	0.11	-0.25	0.07

Hay Prices

Nevada: Hay prices for November were up for all hay, alfalfa hay, and all other hay. The all hay price, at $222.00 per ton, is up $9.00 from October and up $91.00 from last November. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at $225.00 per ton, up $9.00 from October and up $93.00 from a year ago. All other hay, at $175.00 per ton, is up $14.00 from October and up $55.00 from a year ago. All other hay is comprised of grain and grain mixtures, timothy, clover, wild, prairie, range, and other types.

United States: On the national level for November, prices were down from October for all hay, alfalfa hay, and all other hay. The all hay price, at $176.00 per ton, is down $5.00 from October and up $66.00 from last November. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at $198.00 per ton, and all other hay at $122.00 per ton. October hay prices for the U.S. were $181.00 for all hay, $203.00 for alfalfa hay, and $129.00 for all other hay.

Data Reliability: These prices are the result of our monthly Hay Prices Received by Farmers survey. Reporters include both producers and dealers. These prices represent average price at point of first sale for all grades and qualities sold. The average price concept is that price which would result from dividing the total dollars received by all farmers, before any marketing charges are deducted, by total quantity sold.

United States Hired Workers Down 1 Percent, Wage Rates Up Fractionally From a Year Ago

There were 1,141,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 9-15, 2011, down 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 828,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 313,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of $11.15 per hour during the October 2011 reference week, up 2 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of $10.54 per hour, up 5 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned $10.67 per hour compared with $10.28 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at $10.57 per hour, was up 14 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 for hired workers during the survey week, down fractionally from a year ago.

Farm Labor: Number of Workers, Hours Worked, and Wage Rates for Select Regions & United States: Weeks of October 9-15, 2011 and October 10-16, 2010

United States and region		Hired workers				Wage rates in dollars per hour			
		Number of workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
			150 days or more	149 days or less		Field	Livestock	Field and livestock	
Mountain I	2010	22,000	17,000	5,000	45.2	10.11	9.66	9.90	10.60
	2011	29,000	21,000	8,000	50.7	10.38	10.08	10.25	10.45
Mountain II	2010	19,000	15,000	4,000	42.0	10.91	11.01	10.95	11.95
	2011	18,000	14,000	4,000	41.1	10.90	10.22	10.60	11.36
Mountain III	2010	17,000	15,000	2,000	47.1	9.43	10.07	9.75	10.45
	2011	19,000	16,000	3,000	49.1	8.77	10.55	9.50	10.10
Pacific	2010	94,000	49,000	45,000	41.2	10.95	10.97	10.95	11.59
	2011	90,000	49,000	41,000	41.4	11.42	11.78	11.45	12.04
California	2010	193,000	157,000	36,000	44.7	10.20	11.25	10.35	11.20
	2011	185,000	150,000	35,000	43.6	10.15	11.20	10.30	10.96
United States	2010	827,000	589,000	238,000	41.7	10.49	10.28	10.43	11.13
	2011	828,000	590,000	238,000	41.6	10.54	10.67	10.57	11.15

Mountain I includes Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. Mountain II includes Colorado, Nevada, and Utah.
Mountain III includes Arizona and New Mexico. Pacific includes Oregon and Washington. United States excludes Alaska.

United States Total Farm Production Expenditures Edge Up in 2010

United States Total Farm Production Expenditures were $289.0 billion in 2010, up from $287.4 billion in 2009. The 2010 Total Expenditures rose 0.6 percent compared to 2009 Total Expenditures. This is in contrast to a fall of 6.4 percent for 2009 Total Expenditures when compared to 2008 Total Expenditures. Total Expenditures for 2009 remain unchanged from a year ago. Expense items showing increases from the previous year were: Tractors & Self Propelled Machinery, up 17.2 percent, Rent, up 14.6 percent, Other Farm Machinery, up 6.4 percent, Seeds & Plants, up 5.2 percent, Fertilizer, Lime, and Soil Conditioners, up 4.5 percent, Fuels, up 4.0 percent, Taxes, up 3.8 percent, Farm Supplies & Repairs, up 2.6 percent, and Feed, up 0.9 percent.

Total Fuels Expense was $12.9 billion. Diesel, the largest sub-component, was $8.2 billion accounting for 63.1 percent. Diesel expenditures were up 13.2 percent in 2010. Gasoline was $2.6 billion, up 4.9 percent. LP Gas was $1.5 billion, down 24.9 percent. Other Fuels were $0.7 billion, down 10.0 percent.

The four largest expenditures at the United States level totaled $134.4 billion and accounted for 46.5 percent of Total Expenditures in 2010. They were Feed, 15.7 percent; Farm Services, 12.4 percent; Labor, 9.5 percent; and Rent, 9.0 percent.

In 2010, the United States Total Farm Expenditure average per farm was $131,793 compared with $131,137 in 2009, an increase of 0.5 percent. On average, United States farm operations spent: $20,705 on Feed, $16,281 on Farm Services, $12,496 on Labor, $11,812 on Rent, and $11,128 on Livestock and Poultry Purchases. For 2009, United States farms spent an average of: $20,533 on Feed, $16,609 on Farm Services, $13,141 on Labor, $11,818 on Livestock and Poultry Purchases, and $10,312 on Rent.

The United States Economic Sales Class contributing most to the 2010 United States Total Expenditures was the $1,000,000 - $4,999,999 class, with expenses of $80.1 billion, 27.7 percent of the United States total, up 6.3 percent from the 2009 level of $75.4 billion. It was followed by the $500,000 - $999,999 class with $51.6 billion (2009 - $49.3 billion) and the $5,000,000 and Over class with $51.0 billion (2009 -$51.0 billion).

Average 2010 Total Expenditures for the largest economic class of farms ($5,000,000 and Over) were $10.2 million. That is 5.7 times larger than the next largest economic class with farms $1,000,000 - $4,999,999 averaging $1.8 million followed by the $500,000 - $999,999 economic class of farms averaging $0.7 million.

In 2010, Crop Farms expenditures decreased to $158.4 billion, down 0.1 percent while Livestock Farms expenditures increased to $130.6 billion, up 1.3 percent. The largest expenditures for Crop Farms were Rent at $21.7 billion, (13.7 percent); Farm Services at $20.8 billion, (13.1 percent); Labor at $18.8 billion, (11.9 percent). Combined crop inputs (chemicals, fertilizers, and seeds) were $41.7 billion, accounting for 26.3 percent of Crop Farms total expenses. The largest expenditures for Livestock Farms were Feed at $41.9 billion, (32.1 percent); Livestock and Poultry Purchases, at $21.2 billion, (16.2 percent); Farm Services at $14.9 billion, (11.4 percent), together accounting for 59.7 percent of Livestock Farms total expenses. The average Total Expenditure for a Crop farm was $165,006 compared with $105,922 per Livestock farm.

Total Expenditures by Region were up in the Atlantic, the South, and the Plains in 2010. The South had the largest increase at 7.3 percent, while the Atlantic was up 1.5 percent. Total Expenditures for the Plains were up slightly. Total Expenditures for the West decreased 1.4 percent; the Midwest decreased only 0.4 percent.

The Midwest region contributed the most to United States Total Expenditures with expenses of $87.7 billion (30.3 percent), down from $88.0 billion in 2009. The other regions ranked by Total Expenditures are: Plains at $68.1 billion (23.6 percent); West at $63.6 billion (22.0 percent); Atlantic at $36.0 billion (12.5 percent); and South at $33.6 billion (11.6 percent).

The 2010 Agricultural Resource and Management Survey - Phase III (ARMS III) sample size was 35,431 with 21,577 positive usable reports, a response rate of 60.9 percent. The sample size was increased in 2003 and estimates for the 15 Leading Cash Receipts States have been published annually since 2004.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEVADA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
PO BOX 8880
RENO, NEVADA 89507

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United States and Canadian Hog Inventory up 1 Percent

United States and Canadian inventory of all hogs and pigs for September 2011 was 78.6 million head. This was up 1 percent from September 2010, but down slightly from September 2009. The breeding inventory, at 7.11 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and up slightly from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 71.5 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and up 3 percent from last quarter. The pig crop, at 36.3 million head, was up 1 percent from 2010 and up 1 percent from 2009. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 3.60 million head, down 2 percent from last year and down 3 percent from 2009.

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2011 was 66.6 million head. This was up 1 percent from September 1, 2010 but down slightly from September 1, 2009. The breeding inventory, at 5.81 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and up slightly from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 60.8 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up 3 percent from last quarter. The pig crop, at 29.1 million head, was up 1 percent from 2010 and up 1 percent from 2009. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 2.90 million head, down 1 percent from 2010 and down 2 percent from 2009.

Canadian inventory of all hogs and pigs on October 1, 2011 was 12.0 million head. This was up 1 percent from October 1, 2010 and up slightly from October 1, 2009. The breeding inventory, at 1.31 million head, was up slightly from last year and up 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 10.7 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and last quarter. The pig crop, at 7.2 million head, was up 1 percent from 2010 but down 2 percent from 2009. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 699,000 head, down 2 percent from last year and down 5 percent from 2009.